

## INDICTMENTS REVEAL BOLD PLOTS INVOLVING AMERICAN NEUTRALITY

Weeks of Investigation By Department of Justice Result in Implicating High Foreign Officials in Plots Against Neutrality

### NO IMMUNITY FOR THOSE NAMED

Among Others Are Franz Bopp, German Consul General, Baron von Schack, Vice Consul and Maurice Holl

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]

WASHINGTON, Feb. 8.—Weeks of investigation by agents of the department of justice resulted in the filing of indictments today by a federal grand jury in San Francisco against prominent figures in what are considered here to be two of the boldest plots involving questions of American neutrality that have been uncovered since the European war began.

Among those against whom indictments were voted, according to a message received here, are Franz Bopp, German consul general; Baron E. H. von Schack, vice consul of Germany; and Maurice Holl, the Turkish consul general.

Consular officials do not enjoy the diplomatic immunities which ambassadors, ministers and attaches are given by international law, but are subject to the jurisdiction of the country in which they are resident and may be treated by the law as are any other persons. The indictments voted today, however, are the first which the American government has attempted to secure against any foreign representatives. This fact was taken to mean that hereafter the administration means to prosecute any offender against American neutrality.

Bopp and von Schack are charged with complicity in the plot which was first uncovered several weeks ago with the arrest of C. C. Crowley, alleged to be a pro-German agent who had undertaken to cripple the American output of munitions of war and in other ways to help the cause of the Teutonic allies. Bopp is accused of being the head of a conspiracy which hoped to accomplish this end by interfering with trade in munitions and preventing railway shipments by blowing up two tunnels on Canadian roads.

The German officials are being proceeded against under the Sherman anti-trust act in connection with their alleged activities against American plants and under a section of the penal code aimed at the setting on foot of military expeditions against a friendly nation in connection with plans to blow up Canadian railway tunnels.

The indictment of the Turkish consul general was voted in connection with the use of the steamer Sacramento to supply German ships of war in the South Pacific which ended in the internment of that vessel by the Chilean government many months ago. According to officials here the Sacramento case is one of the clearest that has come to their notice of the use of an American port as a base of supplies for belligerent warships and of false clearance papers to get the supply ship past the customs authorities.

Anticipates Actual Report

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 8.—News from Washington of the voted indictments of high officials of the German consulate here anticipated by at least two days the prospect of a report from the federal grand jury. Officials admitted that among those against whom indictments have been voted are included the following:

Franz Bopp, consul general for Germany.

Baron E. H. von Schack, vice consul general for Germany.

Henry W. E. Kaufman, chancellor of the German consulate.

Maurice H. Hall, consul general for Turkey.

Fred Johnson, former owner of the steamer Maximilian.

Johannes H. Van Koolbergen, alleged agent of the German consulate.

Dr. Simon Reimer, said to be a German navy officer.

(Continued on Page Three)

## Minor Changes Will Make Lusitania Case Acceptable

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]

WASHINGTON, Feb. 8.—In substance the tentative communication from Germany designed to settle the Lusitania case is acceptable to the United States. High administration officials tonight considered that this government in prevailing upon Germany to make the concessions and agreements, as set forth in the document, has achieved recognition of all the high principles for which it has contended in connection with submarine warfare.

While the substance of the proposed communication admittedly is satisfactory, minor changes to clarify the wording and in connection with the form which the formal document shall take, were suggested to Count von Bernstorff, the German ambassador, by Secretary Lansing today. The desires of the United States in this connection were made known to the ambassador after President Wilson had discussed the subject with his cabinet. Count von Bernstorff immediately informed the secretary that he saw no reason why the changes could not be made, but explained in effect that, as a precaution, he thought he was justified in submitting the entire matter to his government for final approval. He did so in a dispatch sent to Berlin tonight and within about six days the resulting formal communication is expected.

Secretary Lansing insists, it is stated by high authority, that it shall be specifically in the communication that it is in answer to the American note of July 21. This and changes deemed necessary to clarify certain portions of the document, administration officials thought, Count von Bernstorff himself would be able to make. The ambassador, however, decided not to change even the punctuation of the document without the approval of his government. He had not deemed it necessary, it is said, to include the statement that the communication was in answer to the American note, concluding that the same would be accomplished by submitting it in the form of a memorandum. Administration officials hold, however, that to keep the record straight, if for no other

reason, mention that the communication is a reply, should be made.

The ambassador as yet does not know whether his government wants him to sign the formal note or whether it is desired to have the secretary of foreign affairs do so. This phrase also has been submitted to Berlin. Assurances were received in high diplomatic and official circles that the changes in wording suggested would not in any sense alter the meaning. No modifications, it was authoritatively stated, were suggested in connection with the phrase substituted for the word "illegal" which Germany was unwilling to use.

In Teutonic diplomatic circles not the slightest difficulty over the proposed changes is anticipated. In fact, it is said, Berlin officials probably will immediately authorize them, none being of a nature to require more than passing consideration. Apparently some of the changes consist merely of substituting one word for another, changing the position of one phrase of a sentence without changing even the words, and striking out words, which in their translation from German to English, make the language unusual.

Developments came rapidly today. Secretary Lansing went to the White House an hour before the time set for the meeting of the cabinet to discuss with the president in detail the tentative proposal and analyze the meaning of the words employed. When the cabinet met, the proposal was submitted by the president.

Late this afternoon Count von Bernstorff, who earlier in the day had requested a conference, was called to the state department by Secretary Lansing. The two remained closeted in the secretary's office for more than half an hour. The secretary outlined the wishes of the United States in detail. As the ambassador left the building he said: "Everything is substantially all right but it is not finished."

A high official of the administration made this announcement:

"A settlement of the Lusitania case (Continued on Page Three)

## MORE PEACE ENVOYS SAIL FOR HOME

ROTTERDAM, (Via London) Feb. 8.—Gaston Plantiff, financial manager of the Ford peace expedition; Judge Ben R. Lindsey, of Denver; the Rev. Jenkin Lloyd Jones of Chicago; and Gov. L. B. Hanna sailed for New York today on the Nieuw Amsterdam.

Mr. Plantiff expects to confer with Henry Ford in New York regarding the future plans of the permanent peace board.

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]

COPENHAGEN (via London), Feb. 8.—The famous Norwegian historian, Dr. Halvdan Koht, who is pro-German in his sympathies after his prolonged stay in Germany, is contributing a series of articles to the Christiania newspaper Social Demokraten.

Dr. Koht in these articles asserts that the entire German nation is yearning for peace. This feeling, he says, arises not from weakness, for everybody is convinced that Germany is safe, but because the country has arrived at the conclusion that Germany's enemies, especially Great Britain, cannot be crushed.

"The fact that Great Britain still retains all her territory and cannot be attacked by land and that she is less affected by the war than Germany," the writer adds, "is rapidly growing upon the whole people, who are beginning to realize that, in spite of her military strength, Germany will never be able to enforce a definite decision in her favor."

## GOOD HEALTHFUL PLACE ARE TRENCHES

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]

PARIS, Feb. 8.—Life in the trenches is healthier for the French soldiers now than in barracks during peace times, as shown by the official figures issued today by the army medical department.

The cases of measles, scarletina, diphtheria and cerebro-spinal meningitis were more numerous in the army during the year 1911 than in 1915. These diseases, together with typhoid and dysentery, averaged 7.11 per thousand men in 1911 as compared with 6.92 per thousand men last year. Although the total was lower, typhoid and dysentery cases last year numbered 4.4 per thousand men as compared with 1.88 in 1911. Dysentery, formerly the deadly enemy of armies in the field, attacked only 18 men out of 100,000, as compared with eleven in 190,000 during the war. The mortality was 12 for each 100 cases of typhoid in 1911; in the field mortality was 2.53 per cent, owing to improved methods of treatment.

Californians Sell Highway Bonds

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]

SACRAMENTO, Feb. 8.—E. H. Rollins & Sons and the First Trust and Savings Bank of Chicago purchased \$2,300,000 of state bonds from State Treasurer Fred W. Richardson at par and accrued interest today. The bonds were the remaining \$1,500,000 of the state highway issue and \$800,000 of the \$1,900,000 issue voted for a state building at San Francisco. The state treasurer sold \$200,000 of the San Francisco bonds last month. Rollins & Sons and the Chicago bank, acting jointly, were the only bidders for the bonds. This is the first occasion on which state highway bonds have actually sold at par. Heretofore the counties have been forced to buy them in.

## BROUGHT CHINESE IN—PLED GUILTY

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]

LOS ANGELES, Feb. 8.—A. J. Smith and H. J. Murphy of San Francisco, arrested yesterday by immigration officials at Temecula, Calif., pleaded guilty today before E. M. Hammack, United States commissioner here, to a charge of having smuggled four Chinese into the United States at Tinian, and were held pending action by the federal grand jury.

The four Chinese will be deported, according to Captain Charles T. Connell, immigration inspector in charge.

## WILL HAVE CHAT WITH THE KAISER

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]

LONDON, Feb. 8.—A dispatch from Sofia to the Reuters Telegram company states that King Ferdinand, Prince Radostavoff, and General Joffe, commander-in-chief of the Bulgarian forces, left Monday night for German headquarters to visit Emperor William and afterward Archduke Frederick, commander-in-chief of the Austrian army.

General Joffe will then return to Bulgaria. King Ferdinand plans to extend his trip to Coburg.

## BUSCH HEIRESS TO BECOME A BRIDE

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]

ST. LOUIS, Feb. 8.—Formal announcement was made here tonight of the engagement of Miss Clara Busch, granddaughter of the late Adolphus Busch, and Percy Orthwein, an artist of this city. Miss Busch is the second daughter of Aug. A. Busch, who inherited the bulk of the estate of his father, Adolphus Busch, multimillionaire brewer.

## CONGRESS PROGRESSES ON PREPAREDNESS AND PACIFISTS OPPOSE

Pacifists Warn Senate and House Military Committees Against Being Stamped Into "Unwarranted Appropriations"

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]

WASHINGTON, Feb. 8.—Congress made progress today on national preparedness measures.

The senate military committee closed its hearings on the army bills. The senate naval committee reported favorably a bill for a government armor plate factory, and recommended immediate passage of two emergency navy measures which passed the house yesterday.

On the house side of the capital the naval committee virtually concluded its consideration of Rear Admiral Blue, chief of the bureau of navigation while the military committee received the proposals of the American Red Cross for greater government aid in Red Cross preparedness plans.

The most striking statement brought out at any of the hearings was that of Admiral Blue, who declared that the American navy now was ready to meet any enemy it might be called upon to encounter in the Pacific. He declined to say what steps had been taken in the last year and a half toward preparing the navy against emergencies, holding these to be military secrets.

Pacifists who said they represented the farmers, working people and voting women of the country, today warned senate and house military committees against being stampeded into what they termed unwarranted appropriations for military preparedness.

An anti-preparedness committee of which Lillian D. Wald, of New York, is chairman, introduced itself to the committee as an organization of American citizens formed to protest against a "dangerous program of military and naval expansion, to divert the public mind from those preparations for that world peace which it might be our country's privilege to initiate at the close of the war."

In addition to Miss Wald, opposition to war preparations was voiced by John B. Lennon, treasurer of the American Federation of Labor; James H. Maurer, president of the Pennsylvania Federation of Labor; Mrs. Florence Kelley, Frank Dornblazer, a director of the National Farmer's Union, and Sara Bard Field, of the California Women's Voters Association. A message also was read from Governor Capper of Kansas, endorsing the plans of the committee which include a public investigation of past appropriations investigation of the sources of the present demand for an increase, military expenditures and the elimination of private profit from armament manufacturers.

Mr. Maurer, who said he was a machinist, who has been in constant touch with large organizations of laboring men, met with repeated applause from the crowd in the committee rooms composed of about equal numbers of men and women. He spoke, he explained, not for organized labor, but for the working classes, and charged that the present call for arms was inspired by those who were making immense profits selling ammunition and who at the close of the European war will want a large army and navy to enforce the collection of the money owed them by bankrupt nations.

"The working people will not consent to fight such a war," he said. "Instead of spending more money, I think congress had better investigate the money already spent. The people have believed we were prepared. We were told we were the greatest power on earth. Less than to years ago we were told we could beat Germany and Mexico at the same time."

"Now, suddenly, we are told our boats are old tubs, our army helpless. There were no rumors of war two years ago, when Germany and Austria were in the best condition of their history. If I felt now that those dying nations could thrash us, I would be ashamed to admit I was an American."

"We of the working classes who must fight these battles, want to know what you know of them. President Wilson tells us there may be a great conflagration tomorrow. The American people want to know what danger they are in."

"If we fear Great Britain, why permit our American capitalists to continue to support her?"

(Continued on Page Three)

## NEW OFFENSIVE BY THE GERMANS NOT YET BEGUN

While Artillery Actions On Franco-Belgian Front Continue Great Offensive of Germans Still In Course of Preparation

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]

Artillery actions between the French and British and the Germans continue at various points on the Franco-Belgian front, but there have been no important changes in positions anywhere. Nor have the Germans yet begun the great offensive for which they are reported unofficially to be preparing.

Heavy fighting again has broken out in East Galicia. All along the front the artillery has been very active. The Russians succeeded north of Tarnopol after repeated attacks in penetrating the Austrian advanced infantry positions, but were ejected from later, according to Vienna.

In the Austro-Italian theater the contending forces still are involved in artillery duels.

In the Balkans seemingly all is quiet. Austrian warships in the Adriatic have ineffectually attempted to torpedo a British cruiser and a French torpedo boat which were aiding the Serbian army in its evacuation of the Adriatic coast. A Teuton submarine also attempted to sink two entente vessels off Durazzo, but the torpedoes missed their mark.

Owing to the advice of his physicians, King George, will not reopen parliament in person next week. The session will be opened by means of a royal commission.

To Resist Zeppelins

LONDON, Feb. 9.—Precautionary measures against future visits of Zeppelins are being taken by the government and local authorities, particularly in the districts which suffered most in the recent air raids. Today 150 representatives of the local authorities, in the Midland counties will meet at Birmingham to discuss protective measures.

Herbert L. Samuel, the home secretary, yesterday issued an order extending to the central and northwestern areas of England the restrictions on lighting similar to those already enforced in London. Such lighting restrictions already adopted by the local officials of several towns, one of the most stringent orders being adopted yesterday by the town council at Stratford-in-Avon, which declares that special vigilance is needed there on account of the great historic value of many of the landmarks connected with Shakespeare.

Special dispatches from the Balkans to the morning papers show some divergence of opinion regarding

(Continued on Page Two)

## DEVELOPMENT IS RETARDED BY MEN'S DEMANDS

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]

WASHINGTON, Feb. 8.—Demands of railroad employees for higher wages and the general tendency toward the eight-hour work day were deprecated as checks upon the development of industry by Howard Elliott, chairman of the board of the New York, New Haven & Hartford railroad, in a speech tonight before the chamber of commerce of the United States.

He said such demands as those recently made by the four great organizations of the railroad men were but steps in a process which, if continued, would raise the cost of living to new heights and finally would result in conditions much more to the disadvantage of labor than of capital.

Mr. Elliott's speech came at the close of the first day of the national chamber's fourth annual convention, which is being attended by delegates from every state in the Union. The day's session was devoted largely to committee reports. Tonight the speakers, in addition to Mr. Elliott, include Secretary Redfield of the department of commerce and Dr. Ernest Fox Nichols, president of Dartmouth college.

A report from the merchant marine committee evidencing certain features of the ship purchase bill pending in congress started a lively discussion during the afternoon Chairman William H. Douglas asserted the committee's belief that it would be unwise to place two cabinet officers, as contemplated, on the proposed shipping board, and characterized the proposal to have the government spend \$50,000,000 as inadequate.

"The president has heard the voice of the people on national preparedness," Mr. Douglas said, "and from a program of two battleships a year he now calls for the greatest navy in the world. If we were to go out and speak for a merchant marine, he would come back with a proposal not to spend \$50,000,000, but \$250,000,000."

President Wilson was commended for his proposal to establish a tariff board by Daniel V. Morse, chairman of the committee considering a permanent tariff board. Commercial arbitrators in the United States and merchants in South America were advocated by a committee which recently negotiated an arbitration agreement of

(Continued on Page Three)

## CHARGE 'GREATEST LOBBY KNOWN' OPPOSES SPACE POSTAL PAYMENT

Charge that "the greatest lobby ever known to the American people" is seeking to prevent the substitution of the space for the weight payment system in the railway postal service was made in the house today by Chairman Moon of the postoffice committee, in presenting the annual postoffice appropriation bill. He declared the real object of the opposition was to throttle the parcels post service in the interest of express companies, whose profits are shared equally by the companies and the railroads.

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]

WASHINGTON, Feb. 8.—The charge that "the greatest lobby ever known to the American people" is seeking to prevent the substitution of the space for the weight payment system in the railway postal service was made in the house today by Chairman Moon of the postoffice committee, in presenting the annual postoffice appropriation bill. He declared the real object of the opposition was to throttle the parcels post service in the interest of express companies, whose profits are shared equally by the companies and the railroads.

In urging the establishment of a government guarantee fund, proposed in the bill, the chairman asserted

that a combination of surety companies had so manipulated their bonding of government employees, as to cause the government to lose "hundreds of thousands of dollars."

Sixteen hours have been set aside for general debate on the measure, which carries appropriations aggregating about \$220,000,000. Its introduction followed the publication of local newspapers of a letter to Speaker Clark from Ralph Peters, chairman of the Railway Mail Committee, alleging unfair tactics were being used by the postoffice committee in an effort to pass the space payments plan.

Mr. Moon told the house that under the weight system the railroads now are receiving \$50,000,000 annually for carrying mail and that \$64,000,000 would be allowed them by the proposed space plan. They seek not only an increased rate, he added, but want the weight system retained and the interstate commerce commission given the right to grant them higher rates if it sees fit.

"They have the greatest lobby at work today ever known to the American people," he declared. "Since this bill was passed in the house of representatives (last session) and did not pass the senate, although concurred in by the senate conference committee, there never has been such a propaganda promulgated among a civilized people against a government as these railroads have carried on against this measure. There has been a falsification of every fact that is material for consideration. They have not presented a single fact in justification of the charge that this law ought not to be changed—not a single one."

Chairman of the press committee for the convention, and James Preston, sergeant-at-arms of the press gallery, of the United States senate, was appointed vice chairman.

Chairman McCombs said to newspapermen today that President Wilson would be renominated and that no opposition to him had developed in any quarter.

Several committeemen who were interviewed, expressed the opinion that the president had won the support of the country to his preparedness program.

Robert Ewing, publisher of the New Orleans Daily States, was appointed

(Continued on Page Three)

## CONVENTION DEMOCRATS CONVINCED WILSON RENOMINATED UNOPPOSED

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]

ST. LOUIS, Feb. 8.—That President Wilson would be renominated without opposition was the consensus of opinion of members of the sub-committee of the democratic national convention who met here today to arrange details for the democratic national convention. The committee-men were not so certain, however, that Vice President Marshall would be renominated. The selection of a temporary chairman will not be taken up until May.

Robert Ewing, publisher of the New Orleans Daily States, was appointed

(Continued on Page Three)

## SEVEN ARE KILLED IN GAS EXPLOSION IN PENNSYLVANIA COAL MINE

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]

WILKESBARRE, Pa., Feb. 8.—Seven workmen were killed and two injured by a gas explosion in the cross vein of the Lehigh and Wilkes-Barre coal company at Plymouth late today. All the victims were of foreign birth and several of them left large families. The injured, although seriously hurt, are expected to recover. It is believed that some of the men were killed by black damp which followed the explosion.

Gas ignited by the open lamp of one of the miners is believed to have caused the explosion. About 100 men

were in the mine when the explosion occurred. They were hurled in all directions, several of the dead and injured being found scattered along the gangway. Those who escaped the blast rushed to the foot of the shaft, only to find that wreckage had made it impossible to hoist or lower the large families. The injured, although seriously hurt, are expected to recover. It is believed that some of the men were killed by black damp which followed the explosion.

Gas ignited by the open lamp of one of the miners is believed to have caused the explosion. About 100 men

were in the mine when the explosion occurred. They were hurled in all directions, several of the dead and injured being found scattered along the gangway. Those who escaped the blast rushed to the foot of the shaft, only to find that wreckage had made it impossible to hoist or lower the large families. The injured, although seriously hurt, are expected to recover. It is believed that some of the men were killed by black damp which followed the explosion.

Gas ignited by the open lamp of one of the miners is believed to have caused the explosion. About 100 men

were in the mine when the explosion occurred. They were hurled in all directions, several of the dead and injured being found scattered along the gangway. Those who escaped the blast rushed to the foot of the shaft, only to find that wreckage had made it impossible to hoist or lower the large families. The injured, although seriously hurt, are expected to recover. It is believed that some of the men were killed by black damp which followed the explosion.

Gas ignited by the open lamp of one of the miners is believed to have caused the explosion. About 100 men

were in the mine when the explosion occurred. They were hurled in all directions, several of the dead and injured being found scattered along the gangway. Those who escaped the blast rushed to the foot of the shaft, only to find that wreckage had made it impossible to hoist or lower the large families. The injured, although seriously hurt, are expected to recover. It is believed that some of the men were killed by black damp which followed the explosion.

Gas ignited by the open lamp of one of the miners is believed to have caused the explosion. About 100 men

were in the mine when the explosion occurred. They were hurled in all directions, several of the dead and injured being found scattered along the gangway. Those who escaped the blast rushed to the foot of the shaft, only to find that wreckage had made it impossible to hoist or lower the large families. The injured, although seriously hurt, are expected to recover. It is believed that some of the men were killed by black damp which followed the explosion.

Gas ignited by the open lamp of one of the miners is believed to have caused the explosion. About 100 men

were in the mine when the explosion occurred. They were hurled in all directions, several of the dead and injured being found scattered along the gangway. Those who escaped the blast rushed to the foot of the shaft, only to find that wreckage had made it impossible to hoist or lower the large families. The injured, although seriously hurt, are expected to recover. It is believed that some of the men were killed by black damp which followed the explosion.

Gas ignited by the open lamp of one of the miners is believed to have caused the explosion. About 100 men

were in the mine when the explosion occurred. They were hurled in all directions, several of the dead and injured being found scattered along the gangway. Those who escaped the blast rushed to the foot of the shaft, only to find that wreckage had made it impossible to hoist or lower the large families. The injured, although seriously hurt, are expected to recover. It is believed that some of the men were killed by black damp which followed the explosion.

Gas ignited by the open lamp of one of the miners is believed to have caused the explosion. About 100 men

were in the mine when the explosion occurred. They were hurled in all directions, several of the dead and injured being found scattered along the gangway. Those who escaped the blast rushed to the foot of the shaft, only to find that wreckage had made it impossible to hoist or lower the large families. The injured, although seriously hurt, are expected to recover. It is believed that some of the men were killed by black damp which followed the explosion.

Gas ignited by the open lamp of one of the miners is believed to have caused the explosion. About 100 men

were in the mine when the explosion occurred. They were hurled in all directions, several of the dead and injured being found scattered along the gangway. Those who escaped the blast rushed to the foot of the shaft, only to find that wreckage had made it impossible to hoist or lower the large families. The injured, although seriously hurt, are expected to recover. It is believed that some of the men were killed by black damp which followed the explosion.

Gas ignited by the open lamp of one of the miners is believed to have caused the explosion. About 100 men

were in the mine when the explosion occurred. They were hurled in all directions, several of the dead and injured being found scattered along the gangway. Those who escaped the blast rushed to the foot of the shaft, only to find that wreckage had made it impossible to hoist or lower the large families. The injured, although seriously hurt, are expected to recover. It is believed that some of the men were killed by black damp which followed the explosion.

Gas ignited by the open lamp of one of the miners is believed to have caused the explosion. About 100 men